



Minister Louis Farrakhan will talk about the upcoming Million Man March anniversary during his speech Sunday.

## Local Muslims to mark Saviour's Day

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The local Nation of Islam mosque will once again sponsor a live-via-satellite speech by Minister Louis Farrakhan on Feb. 27.

The speech will be given as part of Saviour's Day activities. The day honors the birth of Nation of Islam founder Fard Muhammad. The Farrakhan speech will be shown at the Benton Convention Center at 3 p.m. Doors will open at around 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10. They can be bought at the door, at Special Occasions bookstore, 112 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive; or Shabazz Restaurant, on the corner of Fourth Street and Patterson Avenue.

Farrakhan's message will be "He Came That We May Have Life." He will also address the need and reasons to revisit Washington, D.C., this coming Oct. 16 for the 10th anniversary of the Million Man March.

Saviour's Day weekend will start on Feb. 26 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with workshops at the Winston Mutual Building. Later that evening at 7 o'clock there will be a Saviour's Day 2005 Gala, which has been titled "A Salute to Tomorrow's Musicians." It

will take place at the Delta Arts Center, 2611 New Walkertown Road, Winston-Salem.

Gala entry/VIP ticket seating at the convention center is a \$20 donation per person.

Minister Mikal Muhammad, the leader of the local mosque, is strongly urging the general public to take part in the events.

"Saviour's Day gives the general public an opportunity to learn more about the purpose of the Nation of Islam and our dedicated humanitarian service to the uplifting of our community and city at large," he said.

For ticket or other information, call 725-9888 or 788-3863.



Muhammad

## MAKING PROM DREAMS COME TRUE

Student is collecting prom dresses for girls who can't buy them

BY COURTNEY GAILLARD  
THE CHRONICLE

Prom night happens only once a year, and for some high schoolers it will happen only once in a lifetime. Securing a date for the big dance is half the battle. But financing the fancy clothes required for prom festivities can empty the wallets of teens and their parents who are strapped for cash. But many high school girls won't have the luxury of even trying on a gown or two because of the high dollar price tags.

Kelly Williamson is determined to make sure that as many girls as possible can go to their high school proms this spring in affordable dresses. The Wake Forest University junior has organized a prom dress drive on campus where students can donate their formal gowns. Students like Williamson, who is a member of Delta Sigma Theta sorority, attend black-tie events throughout the school year. She says many college students will get only two wears out of dresses before sticking them in the back of their dorm closets for good. Williamson hopes to round up at least 20 to 30 dresses by Feb. 28.

"Fifty percent of the student body is involved in Greek life, so they (attend) semifinals and formals every semester," said Williamson, who is a sociology major at Wake Forest. "I've definitely cleaned out my closet (for dresses) from my high school



Kelly Williamson poses with some of the prom dresses she has collected so far.

years. You only wear those things once or twice usually. So it's still pretty new."

She remembers her prom like it was yesterday and the hours spent shopping for the Cinderella-like dress. The Gastonia native says budgeting and planning for prom night should be a fun, memorable experience — not a stressful one spent slaving over a calculator.

"That's your prom, so everybody wants it to be special. You want to feel like a princess for that night. I just thought it would be a good way to help a lot of girls get a nice dress that is still in good condition. There's so many other things you have to pay for

like hair and makeup," Williamson said.

Williamson volunteers with The Salvation Army through the Wake Forest Volunteer Service Corps, which is cosponsoring the dress drive along with Delta Sigma Theta.

All of the dresses will be sent to The Salvation Army Thrift Store on Patterson Avenue. George Joyce, director of retail operations for The Salvation Army, says the gowns will be on sale for a fraction of their original cost.

"We hope that people who couldn't normally afford a prom dress can come here and get one at an affordable price. That's

what we're here for — lending a helping hand," said Joyce. "Any dress here will be very affordable. They will run from anywhere to \$5 to \$20."

Williamson hopes the prom dress drive will become an annual event on the Wake Forest campus. The gowns will be available at The Salvation Army Thrift Store, 4239 Patterson Ave., as of March.

Gowns can be dropped off at the Volunteer Service Corps office in Benson University Center at Wake Forest Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. until Feb. 28. For more information, call 758-5290.

## Malcolm X

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leaders characterized him as a demagogue. But his family said the presentations will dispel that portrayal.

At the time, said Malaak Shabazz, "there weren't that many people of color at the forefront speaking not just for black and white issues but human rights issues. But before he was assassinated he was going to speak at the United Nations to speak on the human rights issues that faced indigenous people and people of color."

The collection will also reveal a different side of Malcolm X, his family said.

"Looking at these letters, the vulnerabilities, the determination, the commitment and the humanity was really touching," said Ilyasah Shabazz. "You get to see that he was a young man; he was a father, a husband; he was someone's child."

Other projects also aimed at setting the record straight on Malcolm X.

Manning Marable, a professor of history and political science at Columbia University, is working on a biography he says will dispel errors in other literature.

"Many of the books that document Malcolm have major inaccuracies," said Marable. "Many are poorly edited and don't encompass the entirety of his speeches."

Next year, Percy Sutton, Malcolm X's personal lawyer who later served as Manhattan borough president, is launching his own project, the Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Living History Foundation. Its purpose, Sutton said, will be "for people to learn about Minister Malcolm and Dr. Shabazz and what their contributions were."

The family welcomes renewed interest in Malcolm X.

"They say that our father changed, that there was this transformation," said Ilyasah Shabazz. "I don't think it was a transformation — he evolved."



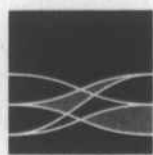
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